

3. (Amended) The thermal interface of Claim 1, wherein said portion comprises a tip portion.

7. (Amended) A method of making a thermal interface comprising attaching whiskers having a diameter of less than about 1 micron to tip portions of fibers having a diameter of greater than about 3 microns.

10. (Amended) A thermally conductive gasket comprising:
a plurality of fibers having first and second ends, said fibers being predominantly aligned;
a material located predominantly proximate to said first ends, said material improving heat transfer between said first ends and a device positioned adjacent to said first ends.

Please add new Claims 18-19:

18. (New) A material comprising a first plurality of fibers and a second plurality of fibers, wherein said first plurality of fibers have a first diameter, wherein said second plurality of fibers have a second diameter substantially smaller than said first diameter, and wherein at least some of said second plurality of fibers are bonded to portions of at least some of said first plurality of fibers.

19. (New) The material of Claim 18, wherein said first plurality of fibers comprise carbon fibers having a diameter of more than about 3 micrometers, and wherein said second plurality of fibers comprise carbon nanotubes having a diameter of less than about 1 micrometer.

REMARKS

The applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowability of Claims 2-3, 7-8, 9, and 14-15. With the above amendments, Claims 1-15, and 18-19 are submitted for further Examination.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected Claim 1 as anticipated by Hiura or Purinton. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of original Claim 2, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if re-written as an independent claim. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.